

## **In the Claims**

1. (currently amended) A hand tool comprising:

(a) a frame having a distal portion and a proximal portion generally defining a first axis extending therebetween, said proximal portion having at least one proximal end;

(b) a working element operably coupled to a distal end of said distal portion, said working element having a working portion that is oriented along a first direction with respect to said frame;

(c) a handle means being defined between a first end and an opposed second end thereof, with said first end being anchored to and disposed adjacent to said frame, said handle means being pivotally coupled to said frame at a portion thereof intermediate said proximal end and said distal end, said handle means having a pivot axis substantially perpendicular to said first axis, such that said second end of said handle means operably pivots between a first position spaced from said first axis and a second position substantially in alignment with said first axis; and

(d) a brace means operably coupled to said proximal end of said frame, said brace means being configured to operably brace against an upper side of a user's forearm while the user operably grasps said handle means.

2. (original) A hand tool as in Claim 1 wherein said proximal portion of said frame diverges from said intermediate portion into two spaced apart and substantially parallelly disposed proximal members.

3. (original) A hand tool as in Claim 2 wherein said brace means extends between said proximal members.

4. (original) A hand tool as in Claim 1 wherein said brace means is fabricated from a resilient material.

5. (original) A hand tool as in Claim 1 wherein said working element is removably secured to said frame.

6 - 7. (cancelled).

8. (original) A hand tool as in Claim 1 wherein said handle means is removably securable to said frame.

9 – 13. (cancelled).